C. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method comprising:
receiving one or more performance goals;
retrieving a first input parameter value from a plurality of input parameter values, the plurality of input parameter values corresponding to one or more of the performance goals;
providing the first input parameter value to a test system;
receiving one or more first output variables from the test system corresponding to the first input parameter value;
adjusting the first input parameter value;
providing the adjusted first input parameter value to the test system;
receiving one or more second output variables from the test system corresponding to the adjusted first input parameter value;
determining whether the second output variables are closer than the first output variables to one or more of the performance goals; and
optimizing the adjusted first input parameter value based upon the determination ~~received output variables in order to meet one or more of the performance goals~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the test system is a system automation engine and wherein the system automation engine is adapted to test a system under test using the first input parameter value and receive the first output variables from the system under test.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~3~~ wherein the adjusting is selected from the group consisting of incrementing the first input parameter value and decrementing the first input parameter value.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
retrieving a second input parameter value from the plurality of input parameter values;
providing the second input parameter value and the adjusted first input parameter value to the test system;
receiving one or more third ~~second~~ output variables from the test system corresponding to the second input parameter value and the adjusted first input parameter; and
adjusting the second input parameter value based upon the received third ~~second~~ output variables in order to meet one or more of the performance goals.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the first input parameter is selected from the group consisting of a buffer size, a queue size, a background CPU utilization, and a task priority.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first output variables are selected from the group consisting of a maximum CPU utilization, an average CPU utilization, an average translation response time, and a maximum timer response time.

8. (Currently Amended) An information handling system comprising:
one or more processors;
a memory accessible by the processors;

one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by the processors; and

[[a]] an input parameter optimization tool for optimizing one or more input parameters, the input parameter optimization tool comprising software code effective to:

receive one or more performance goals over a computer network;

retrieve a first input parameter value from a plurality of input parameter values located in one of the nonvolatile storage devices, the plurality of input parameter values corresponding to one or more of the performance goals;

provide the first input parameter value to a test system;

receive one or more first output variables from the test system corresponding to the first input parameter value;

adjust the first input parameter value;

provide the adjusted first input parameter value to the test system;

receive one or more second output variables from the test system corresponding to the adjusted first input parameter value;

determine whether the second output variables are closer than the first output variables to one or more of the performance goals; and

optimize the adjusted first input parameter value based upon the determination ~~received output variables in order to meet one or more of the performance goals~~.

9. (Currently Amended) The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the test system is a system automation engine and wherein the system automation engine is adapted to test a system under test using the first input parameter value and receive the first output variables from the system under test.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The information handling system of claim 8 ~~10~~ wherein the adjusting is selected from the group consisting of incrementing the first input parameter value and decrementing the first input parameter value.

12. (Currently Amended) The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the software code is further effective to:
retrieve a second input parameter value from the plurality of input parameter values located in one of the nonvolatile storage devices;
provide the second input parameter value and the adjusted first input parameter value to the test system;
receive one or more third ~~second~~ output variables from the test system corresponding to the second input parameter value and the adjusted first input parameter; and
adjust the second input parameter value based upon the received third ~~second~~ output variables in order to meet one or more of the performance goals.

13. (Original) The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the first input parameter is selected from the group consisting of a buffer size, a queue size, a background CPU utilization, and a task priority.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer program product stored on a computer operable media for optimizing at least one of a plurality of input parameter values, said computer program product comprising software code effective to:
receive one or more performance goals;
retrieve a first input parameter value from the plurality of input parameter values, the plurality of input parameter values corresponding to one or more of the performance goals;
provide the first input parameter value to a test system;
receive one or more first output variables from the test system corresponding to the first input parameter value;
adjust the first input parameter value;
provide the adjusted first input parameter value to the test system;
receive one or more second output variables from the test system corresponding to the adjusted first input parameter value;
determine whether the second output variables are closer than the first output variables to one or more of the performance goals; and
optimize the adjusted first input parameter value based upon the determination ~~received output variables in order to meet one or more of the performance goals~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 14 wherein the test system is a system automation engine and wherein the system automation engine is adapted to test a system under test using the first input parameter value and receive the first output variables from the system under test.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 14 ~~16~~ wherein the adjusting is selected from the group consisting of incrementing the first input parameter value and decrementing the first input parameter value.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 14 wherein the software code is further effective to:
retrieve a second input parameter value from the plurality of input parameter values;
provide the second input parameter value and the adjusted first input parameter value to the test system;
receive one or more third ~~second~~ output variables from the test system corresponding to the second input parameter value and the adjusted first input parameter; and
adjust the second input parameter value based upon the received third ~~second~~ output variables in order to meet one or more of the performance goals.

19. (Original) The computer program product of claim 14 wherein the first input parameter is selected from the group consisting of a buffer size, a queue size, a background CPU utilization, and a task priority.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 14 wherein at least one of the first output variables are selected from the group consisting of a maximum CPU utilization, an average CPU utilization, an average translation response time, and a maximum timer response time.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method comprising:
receiving one or more performance goals;
retrieving a first input parameter value from a plurality of input parameter values, the plurality of input parameter values corresponding to one or more of the performance goals, wherein the first input parameter is selected from the group consisting of a buffer size, a queue size, a background CPU utilization, and a task priority;
providing the first input parameter value to a test system, wherein the test system is a system automation engine and wherein the system automation engine is adapted to test a system under test using the first input parameter value and receive one or more first output variables from the system under test;
receiving one or more of the first output variables from the test system corresponding to the first input parameter value;
adjusting the first input parameter value;
providing the adjusted first input parameter value to the test system;
receiving one or more second output variables from the test system corresponding to the adjusted first input parameter value;
determining whether the second output variables are closer than the first output variables to one or more of the performance goals; and
optimizing the adjusted first input parameter value based upon the determination ~~received output variables in order to meet one or more of the performance goals~~.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method comprising:
receiving one or more performance goals;
retrieving a first input parameter value from a plurality of input parameter values, the plurality of input parameter values corresponding to one or more of the performance goals;
providing the first input parameter value to a test system, wherein the test system is a system automation engine and wherein the system automation engine is adapted to test a system under test using the first input parameter value and receive one or more first output variables from the system under test;
receiving one or more of the first output variables from the test system corresponding to the first input parameter value;
adjusting the first input parameter value based upon the received first output variables in order to meet one or more of the performance goals;
providing the adjusted first input parameter value to the test system;
receiving one or more second output variables from the test system corresponding to the adjusted first input parameter value;
determining whether the second output variables are closer than the first output variables to one or more of the performance goals; and
performing the adjusting again based upon the determination.

23. (Currently Amended) An information handling system comprising:
one or more processors;
a memory accessible by the processors;
one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by the processors; and
[[a]] an input parameter optimization tool for optimizing one or more input parameters, the input parameter optimization tool comprising software code effective to:
receive one or more performance goals over a computer network;
retrieve a first input parameter value from a plurality of input parameter values located in one of the nonvolatile storage devices, the plurality of input parameter values corresponding to one or more of the performance goals, wherein the first input parameter is selected from the group consisting of a buffer size, a queue size, a background CPU utilization, and a task priority;
provide the first input parameter value to a test system, wherein the test system is a system automation engine and wherein the system automation engine is adapted to test a system under test using the first input parameter value and receive one or more first output variables from the system under test;
receive one or more of the first output variables from the test system corresponding to the first input parameter value;
adjust the first input parameter value;
provide the adjusted first input parameter value to the test system;

receive one or more second output variables from the test system corresponding to the adjusted first input parameter value;
determine whether the second output variables are closer than the first output variables to one or more of the performance goals; and
optimize the adjusted first input parameter value based upon the determination ~~received output variables in order to meet one or more of the performance goals~~.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer program product stored on a computer operable media for optimizing at least one of a plurality of input parameter values, said computer program product comprising software code effective to:
receive one or more performance goals;
retrieve a first input parameter value from a plurality of input parameter values, the plurality of input parameter values corresponding to one or more of the performance goals, wherein the first input parameter is selected from the group consisting of a buffer size, a queue size, a background CPU utilization, and a task priority;
provide the first input parameter value to a test system, wherein the test system is a system automation engine and wherein the system automation engine is adapted to test a system under test using the first input parameter value and receive one or more first output variables from the system under test;
receive one or more of the first output variables from the test system corresponding to the first input parameter value;
adjust the first input parameter value;

provide the adjusted first input parameter value to the test system;
receive one or more second output variables from the test system corresponding to the adjusted first input parameter value;
determine whether the second output variables are closer than the first output variables to one or more of the performance goals; and
optimize the adjusted first input parameter value based upon the determination ~~received output variables in order to meet one or more of the performance goals~~.

25. (Currently Amended) A computer program product stored on a computer operable media for optimizing at least one of a plurality of input parameter values, said computer program product comprising software code effective to:
receive one or more performance goals;
retrieve a first input parameter value from a plurality of input parameter values, the plurality of input parameter values corresponding to one or more of the performance goals;
provide the first input parameter value to a test system, wherein the test system is a system automation engine and wherein the system automation engine is adapted to test a system under test using the first input parameter value and receive one or more first output variables from the system under test;
receive one or more of the first output variables from the test system corresponding to the first input parameter value;

adjust the first input parameter value based upon the received first output variables in order to meet one or more of the performance goals;

provide the adjusted first input parameter value to the test system;

receive one or more second output variables from the test system corresponding to the adjusted first input parameter value;

determine whether the second output variables are closer than the first output variables to one or more of the performance goals; and

perform the adjusting again based upon the determination.